



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
January 2020 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 29, Issue 1



## GARS Presents TechFest, January 18, 2020



Gwinnett Medical Resource Center, 665 Duluth Highway, Lawrenceville, GA

# Message from the President

We start a new decade in Ham Radio and the good news is that sunspots are returning. Maybe we have hit bottom in the cycle and better propagation and band openings are on the way. 2020 starts off with plenty of activities in January.



one Hamfest definitely worth attending and usually has very welcoming weather. With plenty to do in Orlando, it's one Hamfest that XYLS may want to come along.

2020 is off to a very busy start and should be a good year for Amateur Radio as well.

73,

The first event in January is TechFest and another great one is planned. TechFest 2020 includes many exhibitors, interesting forums, a raffle with not one, but two great radios, another Chili Cookoff and door prizes galore with another fantastic radio. Come out early and help with setup and bring two friends.

"2020 is off to a very busy start and should be a good year for Amateur Radio as well."

**WB4QDX,  
Club  
President**

Next weekend, we have Winter Field Day beginning on Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> running through the 26<sup>th</sup>. We have a new location this year at Gwinnett Fire Station 31 on Collins Hill Road and Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services is thrilled to be hosting us. Come out after the GARS Saturday morning breakfast and help setup stations and antennas. We will be operating a total of four stations with two SSB, one CW and one digital. Plan to come out and operate during the 24-hour operation. It's a great warm up for Field Day with bands not quite as crowded for some fun QSOs.

I know I'm already getting ready for a Winter warm up with HamCation in Orlando in early February. HamCation is

***"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."***

[Author Unknown]



# GARS January Meeting and Workshop

## AM/FM/TV Digital Broadcasting and UHF Channel Packing Plan

By Kevin Scott, K4GTR

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 7:00 pm

## Using Raspberry Pi for Ham Radio (Part 2)

by Dave Slotter, W3DJS

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 7:00 pm

*GARS Officer Nominations are open at the January and February meetings;  
Elections are at the February meeting*

**Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1**

**690 Airport Road**

**Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

**NOTE: Location Entrance to the Hangar has changed! See below link for more details!**

[Updated Entrance Directions to EAA Hangar](#)

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### GARS Communications

#### 2 Meter Repeaters

147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5  
147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2

#### 1.25 Meter Repeater

224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0,  
1.6 MHz Offset

#### 70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5  
442.100(+) MHz Tone 100  
442.325(+) MHz Tone 100

#### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone  
(Offline for Maintenance)

#### Other Resources:

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

#### D-STAR

WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of the  
GARzette.**

Snail Mail Address:  
GARS

P.O. Box 492531  
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org) Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603





# GARS Happenings

## 20 Years ago in the January 2000 GARzette:

- The FCC Announces License restructuring (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur\\_radio\\_licensing\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States/#Restructuring\\_in\\_2000\\_and\\_CORES\\_registration\\_numbers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_radio_licensing_in_the_United_States/#Restructuring_in_2000_and_CORES_registration_numbers));
- An ARRL article discusses enhanced Amateur Radio enforcement;
- Lowry KM4Z discusses ARES' participation in Y2K;
- Earl, AF4FG, discusses Gold Rush 1999, by the Northeast Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts;
- A state court case filed against a Mississippi ham, accused of causing telephone RFI, was tabled, after determining FCC laws preempted state laws on the matter;
- Carter, KF4HLF, shows a list of creative dog breeds;
- An advertisement for TechFest '00 indicates it is scheduled for January 29, 2000.



You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters>

73, *Bill*, WB2RIS, GARzette Editor

## GARS Member Recognition

Bob Hensey, K4VBM, proudly shows the plaque he earned for 1st place in the Individual, Low Power category of the 2018 Collegiate QSO Party. Congratulations, Bob!



Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/collegiate-qso-party-2018-and-2019-plaque-recipients-announced>, GARS Groups.io emails

## GARS HELP WANTED

- Dave Bruse, W4DTR, is requesting assistance for the Workshop Committee:
  1. Raffle Manager: bring Raffle Tickets and plastic container for raffle drawing to workshop, hand out raffle tickets to attendees;
  2. Workshop Secretary: take notes on workshop attendance, topic(s), speaker(s), suggestions for future workshops, questions requiring follow-up during each workshop (as published in the GARzette Workshop minutes page).
- GARzette Editor — Looking for someone to become the next GARzette Editor, starting off as a GARzette Committee member / Assistant Editor. Experience with Microsoft Publisher would be nice, but any experience with Microsoft Office products is helpful. Most of the content is supplied by others, but occasionally you may wish to write content, especially in your area of expertise. If you are interested, please contact Bill Eggers, WB2RIS at [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org).

Thanks to Dave Slotter, W3DJS, for taking over as GARS' Public Information Officer!

If you're interested in volunteering for one of these positions, please contact one of the GARS Officers. Supporting GARS activities is an important part of what we do and help from club members is needed.

[PS— Articles to publish in the GARzette, either written by GARS members or published elsewhere, are always welcome. —Ed.]



# GARS Happenings - 2019 Holiday Party





# Special Event Stations

2019 was another great year for special event (SE) stations and for other yearlong operating events. Some of the well known (and not so well known) perennial favorites (far from a complete list):

- The 13 Colonies event (website was <http://www.13colonies.net>), from July 1 to July 7, activates stations in all of the 13 original colonies. Some GARS members activate K2G, representing Georgia. Chasers can go for the “Clean Sweep” by contacting stations in all original 13 colonies; there are other bonus stations, including WM3PEN in Philadelphia, PA, and GB13COL in England;
- W9IMS (see <http://www.w9ims.org>) should once again offer the QSL cards and the certificate for contacting the station during the 3 big races at Indianapolis Motor Speedway: INDYCAR Grand Prix, Indianapolis 500 and Brickyard 400;
- N4DAB (see <https://n4dab.com/2020-daytona-500-special-event-station/>) operates during the Daytona 500 in February;
- The annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Communications Test (see <http://www.usarmymars.org/events/armed-forces-day>) is an event (usually in May) where military stations and amateurs communicate while transmitting in their own band. It’s your chance for a QSO with WAR in the Pentagon;
- In early September, Route 66 on the Air (see <http://w6jbt.org>) provides contacts with multiple stations along the Route, with nice QSL cards and a certificate;
- SKYWARN Recognition Day, 1st Saturday in December; work NWS stations across the country (see <http://www.arrl.org/skywarn-recognition-day>, <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/skywarn-recognition-day-first-saturday-in-december/>);

## 2019 Review

- The yearlong Canadian National Parks in the Ari (CNPOTA) wraps up at the end of 2019;
- I was not able to operate much this year, due to demands from my job. However, I did manage to participate in some special events (see certificates to the right):
  - For NASA on the Air (2019 was the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, see <https://nasaontheair.wordpress.com/>), I was able to contact 4 out of 6 sites for a total of 6 unique QSO’s;
  - I achieved a clean sweep in 13 Colonies and contacted all stations except for GB13COL (if I worked that station, it would have been a “full sweep”);
  - I operated once again in the annual “12 Days of Christmas” event, starting December 14 (see <http://www.qrz.com/db/K2RYD>). (Should have a clean sweep, certificate available after January 15). I also worked K2B - Christmas Birthday Special 2019, operators were born on Christmas Day (see <https://www.qrz.com/lookup/k2b>);
  - I received 2 SSTV images from the International Space Station and received a certificate for my efforts.



## What’s new for 2020?

### (Yearlong, more or less)

- MARCONI: GENIUS AND BRAINWAVE” is an international, worldwide award organized by **A.R.I. Fidenza**, a Radio Club affiliated to A.R.I. (Associazione Radioamatori Italiani). The award period lasts the whole year 2020; every month of the year is dedicated to one specific event, and is associated to a different special callsign. For more information see [http://www.arifidenza.it/LaSezione/DiplomaMarconi2020/Diploma\\_Marconi\\_ENG.asp](http://www.arifidenza.it/LaSezione/DiplomaMarconi2020/Diploma_Marconi_ENG.asp)
- DL250BTHVN will be active from Bonn, Germany, between December 16, 2019 and December 17, 2020, during the Beethoven Anniversary Year. Ludwig van Beethoven, one of the greatest composers of all time, was born in Bonn on December 16, 1770. More on <https://dl250bthvn.de/en/dl250bthvn-2/>
- LZ1KCP, the Radio Club Blagovestnik, will again put 12 special callsigns on the air this year, one month at a time, starting with LZ1908IK, to honor Orthodox Christianity saints. There is an associated “All Saints Award”. For more information see <http://www.lz1kcp.com/> or <https://www.qrz.com/lookup/LZ1908IK>.

(Continued on page 7)

# TechFest

## TechFest 2020

ARRL-sanctioned *hamfest* and a *show-and-tell* of the various facets of *amateur radio* and *Chili Cookoff*



***It's all free, no entry fee and a free lunch!***

***TechFest will be held JANUARY 18, 2020***

Location: Gwinnett Medical Center's Resource Center  
665 Duluth Highway (GA-120), Lawrenceville, GA 30046

**For more info, visit [www.techfest.info](http://www.techfest.info).**

Doors open at 9:00am Raffle and last door prize drawing around 1:30.  
Amateur Radio Exams from 9:00am to 11:00am ([www.gars.org/exams](http://www.gars.org/exams) for fees and details)

(Continued from page 6)

### (Short time)

- GB200FN—bi-centenary of Florence Nightingale's birth. Active from Jan 7—Feb 3. Full details on <http://www.qrz.com/db/gb200fn>
- Maine Bicentennial Special Event (see <https://maine200specialevent.com/>). Several calls operate during Statehood Week March 15th – 21st, 2020. Certificate for contact; endorsements for bands, modes, and clean sweep of contact with each of the Maine 200 Special Event call signs. (Note: Missouri's bicentennial is in 2021; Brantley, Lamar, Lanier, Long and Seminole counties in GA are celebrating their centennial in 2020—Ed.)
- HB9HI will operate special event station HE2JOJ on 1-31 January to mark the 3rd edition of the Winter Youth Olympic Games at Lausanne, Switzerland. QSL via HB9HI (direct or bureau). A certificate will be available - complete information can be found on <http://www.hb9hi.ch/he2joj>.
- Starting January 5th through January 17th the 2020 [Dakar Rally](#) will take place from Saudi Arabia. Special event station HZ1RDS will be QRV. At the event will be HZ1BF, HZ1ZM, 7Z1SJ, HZ1HZ, 7Z1OO, HZ1DG, HZ1BW and HZ1LG.

### For more information:

Other Special Event stations are listed throughout the year. I use these websites to search for them:

- ARRL special event listings: <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>
- 1x1 callsigns: <http://www.1x1callsigns.org/>
- DX World Bulletins: <https://dx-world.net>
- eHam.net forum: <https://www.eham.net/community/smf/index.php/board,35.0.html>
- DXNews.com forum: <https://dxnews.com/forum/forum/special-event-stations> (lots of international SE stations)
- There's even a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/SpecialEventSchedules/> (though not updated often)

Happy Hunting in 2020!

73, *Bill*, WB2RIS, GARzette Editor



# ARISS Next-Generation Radio System Ready for Launch

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) reports that its first Interoperable Radio System (IORS) flight unit — serial number 1001 — has been delivered to NASA's Johnson Space Center for launch in early March. The IORS represents the first major upgrade in ARISS equipment on the International Space Station since Amateur Radio gained a permanent presence onboard the ISS in 2000. In December, ARISS received approval from NASA Safety to launch the IORS on SpaceX CRS-20 and stow the radio system on the ISS for future installation.

"The IORS is a foundational element of the ARISS next-generation radio system and is an incredible engineering achievement by the ARISS hardware team," ARISS International President Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said. "This first element delivery will support easier radio mode transitions and enable new, exciting capabilities for hams, students, and the general public."

The new system includes a higher-power radio, an enhanced voice repeater, and updated digital packet radio (APRS) and slow-scan television (SSTV) capabilities for both the US and Russian space station segments. The IORS consists of a custom-modified JVC Kenwood TM-D710GA transceiver, an AMSAT-developed multi-voltage power supply, and interconnecting cables. The IORS set to launch in March will be installed in the ISS Columbus module.

Bauer said a second flight unit is expected to be launched sometime later this year for installation in the Russian Service module. The ARISS hardware team will assemble four flight units — and 10 IORS units in all — to support onboard flight operations, training, operations planning, and hardware testing.

"Future upgrades and enhancements to the next generation system are in various stages of design and development," Bauer said. "These include a repaired Ham Video system — currently planned for launch in mid-to-late 2020, L-band (uplink) repeater, ground command operations capability, LimeSDR signal reception, a microwave 'Ham Communicator,' and Lunar Gateway prototype experiment."

Bauer said a lot of "heavy lifting" remains to prepare the IORS for operation on the space station. "ARISS has 92 engineering requirements and our operations Phase III safety review to complete," he explained. "The space agencies take a position of 'trust, but verify.' Thus, these engineering and safety 'verifications' all need to be closed out before the IORS can be unstowed and turned on. This will be the ARISS hardware team's focus over the next few months."

Bauer reminded that ARISS is almost entirely run by volunteers and encouraged donations for next-generation hardware developments, operations, education, and administrative functions.

Source: <http://www.arrrl.org/news/ariss-next-generation-radio-system-ready-for-launch>





## In Other News

### New England Radio Amateur Hosts Video on Tower Safety

Jim Idelson, K1IR, of Sudbury, Massachusetts, recently provided a club meeting program on ham radio tower safety for the Billerica Amateur Radio Society (BARS). Kayla Creamer, W2IRY, recorded and edited the presentation and [made it available online](#). It runs approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes.

In his presentation, Idelson said an estimated 38,000 amateur radio towers are standing in the US, with 24 hours of climbing time per tower each year. He noted that two tower-climbing fatalities have occurred in the past year, with a calculated fatality rate that's twice that of commercial tower workers. In more than half of amateur tower incidents, the climber fell while tied into the tower, while another 37% involved falls. Idelson advised radio amateurs to plan, identify, and mitigate risks in advance of a climb, to focus and be patient, and not to get distracted.

"Risks of tower work are far too high," Idelson told his audience. "Success depends on creating a culture that values safety."

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-england-radio-amateur-hosts-video-on-tower-safety>



### ARRL's New On the Air Magazine on its Way to Members!

The premiere issue of ARRL's *On the Air* magazine has left the printer and is on its way to member subscribers! The magazine should be in mailboxes within the next 10 days. [On the Air](#) is the newest ARRL member benefit to help new licensees and beginner-to-intermediate radio communicators navigate the world of amateur radio.

Eligible US-based members can elect to receive *On the Air* or *QST* magazine in print when they join or when they renew their ARRL membership. All members will be able to access digital editions of *On the Air* magazine.

The first digital issue of *On the Air* will be available beginning January 14, supported by a new version of ARRL's digital magazine app. With one app, members will be able to access *On the Air* and *QST*.

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-s-new-on-the-air-magazine-on-its-way-to-members>





# Gwinnett ARES Highlights

By Karen Whited, AB4NW

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm at the EOC on Hi Hope Road. If you are interested in emergency communications, contact Hall Collier W4IGE at [w4ige@arrl.net](mailto:w4ige@arrl.net).



## MEMBER PROFILE:

**Don Stewart KW4AL**

Don lives in Lawrenceville and is originally from the Decatur and Tucker area. He has a daughter, Kelly, 40, in Lilburn and a son, Brian, 38, in Cockeysville, Maryland. He earned a BS in industrial management from Georgia Tech, worked for Southern Bell/Bell South, and is currently retired.

Don was first licensed in 2013 after taking the exam in Winder. He has been a GARS member for 5.5 years and became a Gwinnett ARES member about a year ago. He is also a member of the Alford Memorial Radio Club in Stone Mountain.



Don uses a G5RV antenna, copper J-pole, and several other rollup antennas. He owns an FT-8800 (mobile), an FT-8900, a Kenwood TS-590SG, and has a non-working Drake TR-7 as well as several HT's. Aspects of the hobby Don enjoys most are community events, public service, learning HF (not contesting), building, and sharing the hobby in general.

Don also enjoys photography, genealogy, and native plant gardening. You will frequently see him taking pictures at meetings and other events.

## PROMOTION



Charlie Allport WS4TOT is *Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Training* in Gwinnett ARES.

There was no December ARES meeting. The next meeting is January 28, 2020.



## ARES TRAILER DEPLOYED TO CHOA CHRISTMAS PARADE

On December 7, Gwinnett ARES offered communications support to assist DeKalb ARES for the 39<sup>th</sup> annual parade. Our trailer was staged as the Net Control

Station with John Davis WB4QDX, Hal Collier W4IGE, and Jim Penland N4RAR, EC for DeKalb ARES.





# Net Managers Corner

## Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

### **GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!**

**GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club** and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only SEVEN primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN	Bill - KK4AUA
David - KA4KKF	Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ
Russell - AB4QQ		

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club.

The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at [KK4TKJ@arrl.net](mailto:KK4TKJ@arrl.net). Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

*Chuck McCord*, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager

# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in December

None

New Members: 0

Total Members as of December 31, 2019  
344

Join GARS members for our  
weekly breakfast gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays  
at

Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

[\(Directions\)](#)

The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in January:

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**  
**From All of Us at GARS**

Diane Andrus (KB4LWS)  
Donald Brant (N2VGU)  
Jolie Brown  
Terry Cantrell (W4WTC)  
Eliud Carmona  
Rick Cobb (N4XYY)  
Hal Collier (W4IGE)  
Randy Collins (N4COR)  
John Craig (KK4JXU)  
Mark Fenley (KM4DJO)  
Gregg Freeman (W1ROO)  
Kevin Highsmith (KK4WOG)  
Steve Jassen (KN4SVT)  
Chuck Johnston (KN4JCN)  
Ruth Jones (K4RHJ)  
Denice Kludt  
Wes Lindsey (W4CWL)  
Kevin McClure (KF4HFN)  
Yolanda Pence (KM4AAQ)  
Antonio Perry (KN4AXM)  
Grant Porter (KG4SDR)  
Newton White (N4EWT)  
Ruth Willet (KM4LAO)

## GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail  
towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.),  
please e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ



**EXTRA! EXTRA!**

## Repeater Status

6M	currently down
147.075	Operational in Snellville
147.255	Operational in Snellville
224.580	Operational in Grayson
442.100	Operational at Goshen Springs
442.325	Operational in Buford
444.525	Operational in Snellville

Link remote receivers being added



**Robert (Mike) Smith**  
5191 La Paloma Dr.  
Lilburn, GA 30047  
Phone (404)-509-3104  
[Smithrm70@hotmail.com](mailto:Smithrm70@hotmail.com)

**SERVICE & REPAIR**  
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## GARS on Social Media

**GARS has moved to Groups.io!**



**Join GARS on Groups.io:**  
<http://gars.org/groups.io>



**Visit GARS on Facebook:**  
<http://gars.org/facebook>








**Follow GARS on Twitter:**  
<http://gars.org/twitter>

















**Join GARS on YouTube:**  
<http://gars.org/youtube>

## G A R S Volunteers





### OFFICERS

John Davis, President	WB4QDX	
Sandy Jackson, Vice President	KJ4DRO	
Joe Biddle, Secretary	AD4PZ	
Pam Meridy, Treasurer	WB1AKQ	
Randy Collins, Program Manager	N4COR	

### MANAGERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Karen Albritton, Membership Chair	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, VE Team & Workshop Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster and Field Day Chair	KA4KKF	
Ralph Pickwick, Apparel Manager and Education Chair	KJ4CNC	
Glen Wendt, TechFest Chair	W3WWT	
Bill Eggers, GARzette Editor	WB2RIS	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS / DXCC QSL Card Checker and Historian	ND4V	
Chuck McCord, Net Manager	KK4TKJ	
Mike Swiderski, Technical / RFI Advisor	K4HBI	
Joe Biddle, Winter Field Day Chair	AD4PZ	
Kyle Albritton, Multimedia Chair	W4KDA	
Don Stewart, Elmer Manager	KW4AL	
Dave Slotter, Georgia QSO Party Chair and Public Information Officer	W3DJS	

### DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA		Rick Cobb, N4XYX	
Mike Weathers, ND4V		Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee	

## GARS MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
GENERAL Meeting Minutes  
12/7/2019

**Attendance:** 80 attended the **Holiday Party**

**Treasurer:** **Pam Meridy (WB1AKQ)** gave the club financial report.

**Membership Report:** **David (W4DTR)** reported that Membership is at [ 340 ].

**Programs:** **Randy Collins (N4COR)** Announced Upcoming Programs:

- **January 2020** – Power Supplies
- **February 2020** – Finding power line noise or TV Frequencies History
- **March 2020** – Ham Radio Awards (The Fun of the Hunt)
- **April 2020** – Favorite Ham Radio Web sites and Podcasts

**GARS Workshop** - **Dave (W4DTR)** outlined the next workshop sessions coming up:

- **December** – No Workshop
- **January** - Using Raspberry Pi for Ham Radio (Part 2)

**Suggestions for Workshop topics – Send to [workshop@gars.org](mailto:workshop@gars.org)** or see Dave (W4DTR) or Dave (W3DJS)

**GARS Education** – Ralph (KJ4CNC) mentioned:

**HamCram Year end wrap up:**

- 3 Ham Crams this year 2 Technician and 1 General classes.
- McConnell Middle School was approved for an ARISS pass for the students to talk to the Astronauts.

**TechFest - Glen (W3WWT)** reminds us the date is **Saturday, January 18th, 2020.**

- The location is locked in to the same location.
- The chili cook off is on. So come prepared with your entry.
- Sign up to volunteer at Tech Fest. Folks are always needed to put on this premier GARS Event.

**Winter Field Day** – **Joe (AD4PZ)** informs us the upcoming WFD will be held on **January, 25-26 2020**. The location will be Fire Station #31 on Collins Hill Rd..

**2019 Ham Of The Year** – John announced the Ham of the Year by reading a list of activities/duties this person performed this year:

- maintains our repeater system;
- maintains our web site;
- runs the dog show fund raiser;
- is the Field Day Chairman year after year;
- plays a leadership role at Tech Fest;
- in a leadership role for the ham fest;
- carries and displays our signs at events;
- runs other GARS meetings;
- helps setup and breakdown at all GARS gatherings;
- active in a ARES leadership role; etc.

**2019 GARS Ham Of The Year – David Adcock (KA4KKF)**

Submitted by: **Joe Biddle (AD4PZ)**, GARS Secretary

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**(No Workshop meeting in December)**



## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar  
> For more information click the links <

### January 2020

- 1 [Straight Key Night](#)
- 4 [Kid's Day](#)
- 4-5 [RTTY Roundup](#)
- 18-20 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

### February 2020

- 10-14 [School Club Roundup](#)
- 15-16 [International DX – CW](#)

### March 2020

- 7-8 [International DX– Phone](#)

### April 2020

- 19 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

(no ARRL contests in May)

### June 2020

- 13-15 [June VHF](#)
- 20 [Kid's Day](#)
- 27-28 [Field Day](#)

### July 2020

- 11-12 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

### August 2020

- 1-2 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
- 15-16 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
- 16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

### September 2020

- 12-13 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)
- 12-14 [September VHF](#)
- 19-20 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

### October 2020

- 10-11 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 19-23 [School Club Roundup](#)

### November 2020

- 7-9 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)
- 21-23 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)
- 28-29 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

### December 2020

- 4-6 [160 Meter](#)
- 12-13 [10 Meter](#)
- 20 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### 01/11/2020 | [Georgia State ARES Meeting, ARRL Operating Specialty Convention](#)

Location: Forsyth, GA  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Georgia ARES  
Website: <https://gaares.org>

### 01/18/2020 | [TechFest](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://www.techfest.info/>



### 02/01/2020 | [CARS Hamfest and Computer Show, ARRL SC State Convention](#)

Location: North Charleston, SC  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Charleston Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <https://wa4usn.org/>

### 02/07/2020 | [Orlando HamCation, ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention](#)

Location: Orlando, FL  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.hamcation.com>

### 02/21/2020 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)

Location: Dalton, GA  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Dalton Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.w4drc.com>

### 03/13/2020 | [Charlotte Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention 2020](#)

Location: Concord, NC  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

For more information: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>  
When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions:  
Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC

GARS Events Calendar for 2020	GARS Recurring Calendar
TechFest ( <a href="http://www.techfest.info">www.techfest.info</a> ) January 18 Winter Field Day January 25&26 General HamCram March Dog Show Fundraiser March Georgia QSO Party April 11&12 North metro area Fox Hunt April May Madness May Memorial Day Parade May 25 ARC/KARC Hamfest June 6 Field Day June 27&28 Tech HamCrams Jul, Nov JOTA October Maker Faire TBD Stone Mt. Hamfest November Holiday Party December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Club Meeting</li> <li>♦ 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Workshop</li> <li>♦ 2nd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm: <a href="#">GARS Ham Exam Session</a> Fire Station #24 2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd Buford, GA 30519</li> <li>♦ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>♦ Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>♦ Most Saturdays at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast Golden Corral Restaurant 2155 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30043</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>February GARS Meeting:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Finding Power Line Noise and other RFI</b> by Jeff. J. Stuparits, W4DD</p>	

#### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	31	1 <b>Happy New Year!</b>	2	3	4 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
5	6 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	7	8	9	10	11 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast <b>GA ARES Convention at GPSTC</b>
12 <b>GARS VE Team Testing Session Starts at 2:00 pm</b>	13 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	14 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting	15	16	17	18 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast  <b>TechFest</b>
19	20 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	21 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Workshop	22	23	24	25 Breakfast <b>Winter Field Day, Day 1 Fire Station 31</b>
26 <b>Winter Field Day, Day 2 Fire Station 13</b>	27	28	29	30	31	<b>February 1</b> 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive

## Metro Testing Sessions

*GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in, unless otherwise noted. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.*

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
VEC: WCARS

Braserton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braserton, GA  
Contact: Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560  
[w4rlg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
VEC: WCARS

Hall County EOC  
470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.  
Contact: Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday

10:00 AM  
Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center  
13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004  
Contact: Ian Kahn, KM4IK  
E-mail: [km4ik.ian@gmail.com](mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com)

### Third Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL  
9:30 am (Appointments required, no walk-ins)  
Stone Mountain Masonic Lodge  
840 VFW Drive  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083  
Contact: Frank Haynes, KV4SP  
Email: [fhaynes@vatmom.net](mailto:fhaynes@vatmom.net)  
(678) 467-3712

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm  
Fire Station #24  
Mall of Georgia Boulevard  
Buford, GA 30519  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

VEC: WCARS and W5YI  
2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg  
66 McElroy Street  
Winder, GA 30680  
Contact: Mike Wolcott, W4WYI  
(404) 281-6581  
E-mail: [W4WYI@ARRL.net](mailto:W4WYI@ARRL.net)

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results

### December Results

We had another good testing session on Sunday, 12/8/19. There were four individuals testing and all four passed exams as follows:

- One upgrade to General class;
- Three new Technician class.

Many thanks to the following VE's who made this session possible:

- Dave, W4DTR (CVE)
- Richard, KM4SWL
- Bill, WB4WTN
- Russell, AB4QQ
- Sid, N4NQ (Co-CVE)
- Frank, KV4SP
- Robert, K4CQO

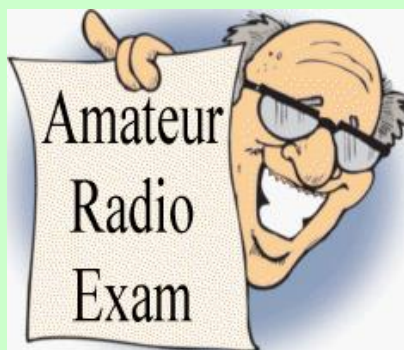
73, *Don*, KK4NJM (Co-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

GARS VE Website:

<http://gars.org/exams>



### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Contact: Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
For more information go to  
[www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com) and click on "Test Sessions"

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street, Marietta, GA  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta, GA  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
1344 South Broad Street, Commerce, GA  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

Sawnee Amateur Radio Association  
Beaver Toyota  
1875 Buford Highway, Cumming, GA  
Meeting at 6:30

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Annistown Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain, GA  
Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The Shepherd Center  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta, GA  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League  
Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept  
Alpharetta Adult Activity Center  
13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to:  
<http://www.gars.org/>



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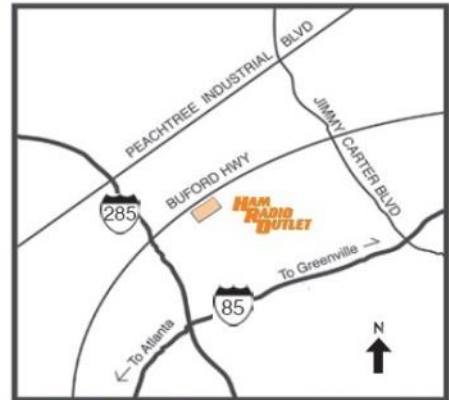
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